



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 434

LCO No. 2284

02284_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (2) of section 10-262f of the 2006 supplement
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in
3 lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

4 (2) "Base aid ratio" means one minus the ratio of a town's wealth to
5 the state guaranteed wealth level, provided (1) no town's aid ratio shall
6 be less than [six one-hundredths] zero, and (2) no town's aid ratio shall
7 be less than six one-hundredths if such town's school district is a
8 priority district pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-266p of the
9 2006 supplement to the general statutes.

10 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) There is established an equal
11 educational opportunity account which shall be a separate nonlapsing
12 account within the General Fund administered by the State Treasurer.
13 The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited
14 in the account. Investment earnings credited to the assets of the
15 account shall become part of the assets of the account. All moneys in

16 the account shall be used for the purposes of section 4 of this act.

17 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) For purposes of subsection
18 (b) of this section, "net current expenditures per student" means the net
19 current expenditures of a town, as described in subdivision (3) of
20 subsection (a) of section 10-261 of the general statutes, divided by the
21 number of resident students of a town, as described in subdivision (22)
22 of section 10-262f of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes.

23 (b) If the net current expenditures per student of a town, as
24 described in subsection (a) of this section, is greater than the average of
25 the net current expenditures per student of all towns, and if such
26 town's school tax rate, as described in subdivision (9) of subsection (a)
27 of section 10-261 of the general statutes, is less than fifty per cent of the
28 average of the school tax rates of all towns, then the total amount of
29 state grants to such town shall be reduced in accordance with section 5
30 of this act, by an amount equal to fifty per cent of the product obtained
31 by multiplying (1) the number of resident students of the town
32 described in subdivision (22) of section 10-262f of the 2006 supplement
33 to the general statutes, by (2) the difference between the town's net
34 current expenditures per student and the average of the net current
35 expenditures per student of all towns. All such funds shall be
36 deposited by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
37 into the equal educational opportunity account established pursuant to
38 section 2 of this act. If a town owes more money pursuant to this
39 section than the total of the town's grants, the secretary shall seek
40 payment of the difference from the town.

41 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For purposes of subsection
42 (b) of this section, "weighted resident students" means the product
43 obtained by multiplying (1) the number of resident students of the
44 town described in subdivision (22) of section 10-262f of the 2006
45 supplement to the general statutes, and (2) the school tax rate of a
46 town, as described in subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of section 10-261
47 of the general statutes, divided by the average of the school tax rates of

48 all towns.

49 (b) Each town that has a school tax rate, as described in subdivision
 50 (9) of subsection (a) of section 10-261 of the general statutes, as
 51 amended by this act, that is greater than the average of the school tax
 52 rates of all towns shall be entitled to an annual grant determined
 53 pursuant to this section. Grants shall be in the amount of the product
 54 obtained by multiplying (1) the amount of the assets of the account
 55 established pursuant to section 2 of this act, by (2) the quotient
 56 obtained by dividing (A) the town's weighted resident students, as
 57 described in subsection (a) of this section, by (B) the sum of all towns'
 58 weighted resident students.

59 (c) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall
 60 determine the amount payable to each town from the equal
 61 educational opportunity account established pursuant to section 2 of
 62 this act. Said secretary shall certify to the Comptroller four payments
 63 in each fiscal year, each of which shall equal twenty-five per cent of the
 64 total amount of the grant to which each town is entitled. The
 65 Comptroller shall draw an order on the Treasurer on or before the fifth
 66 business day following the date on which said secretary certifies each
 67 such payment and the Treasurer shall pay the amount thereof to such
 68 town not later than the last day of the month during which the
 69 Comptroller's order is drawn. For the fiscal year commencing July 1,
 70 2007, and each fiscal year thereafter, said secretary shall certify such
 71 payments to the Comptroller on or before the fifteenth day of
 72 September, the fifteenth day of October, the fifteenth day of March and
 73 the fifteenth day of April.

74 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) Each town shall submit any data
 75 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may require for
 76 the purpose of determining the amount of town grant reductions to be
 77 made in accordance with section 3 of this act and the amount of grants
 78 in accordance with section 4 of this act in such form and manner as the
 79 secretary prescribes. Upon receipt of a request from the secretary, a

80 town shall provide any additional information the secretary may
81 require with respect to the data submitted. The secretary may revise
82 the amount of a town's grant pursuant to section 4 of this act, or the
83 amount of the reduction of a town's grants pursuant to section 3 of this
84 act, upon finding that such amounts were determined on the basis of
85 inaccurate data or an incorrect calculation. Any addition or reduction
86 to a town's grant or grants due to any such a revision shall be reflected
87 in any remaining payments the secretary certifies in the fiscal year
88 during which the grant is revised or in the fiscal year next following.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	10-262f(2)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish an equal educational opportunity account to equalize the local effort required by towns to provide education.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]